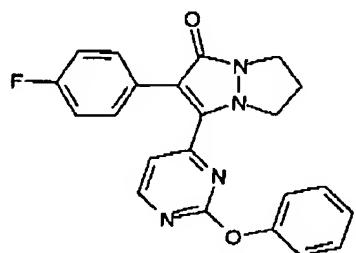


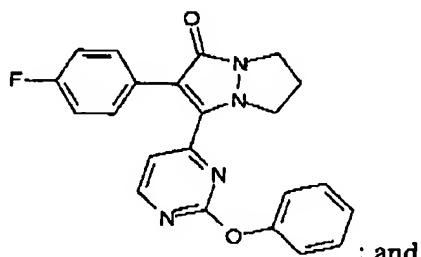
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AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Previously presented) The compound 2-(4-fluorophenyl)-3-(2-phenoxy-pyrimidin-4-yl)-6,7-dihydro-5*H*-pyrazolo-[1,2-a]pyrazol-1-one, including all enantiomeric and diastereomeric forms and pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof, said compound having the formula:



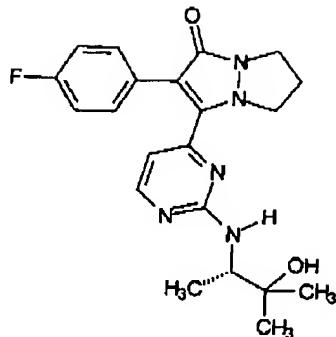
2. (Previously presented) A pharmaceutical composition comprising:
- a) an effective amount of the compound 2-(4-fluorophenyl)-3-(2-phenoxy-pyrimidin-4-yl)-6,7-dihydro-5*H*-pyrazolo-[1,2-a]pyrazol-1-one, including all enantiomeric and diastereomeric forms and pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof, said compound having the formula:



- b) one or more pharmaceutically acceptable excipients.

3. (Previously presented) The compound 2-(4-fluorophenyl)-3-[2-(2-hydroxy-1,2-dimethylpropylamino)pyrimidin-4-yl]-6,7-dihydro-5*H*-pyrazolo[1,2-a]pyrazol-1-one, including all enantiomeric and diastereomeric forms and pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof, said compound having the formula:

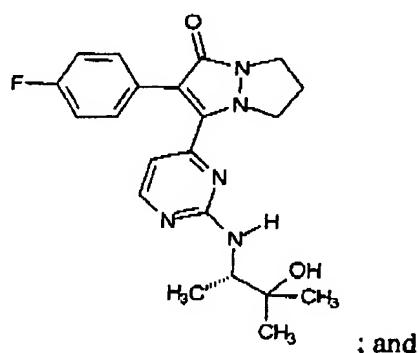
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4. (Currently amended)

A pharmaceutical composition comprising:

- a) an effective amount of the compound 2-(4-fluorophenyl)-3-[2-(2-hydroxy-1,2-dimethylpropylamino)pyrimidin-4-yl]-6,7-dihydro-5H-pyrazolo[1,2-a]pyrazol-1-one 2-(4-fluorophenyl)-3-(2-phenoxy-pyrimidin-4-yl)-6,7-dihydro-5H-pyrazolo[1,2-a]pyrazol-1-one, including all enantiomeric and diasteriomic forms and pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof, said compound having the formula:



- b) one or more pharmaceutically acceptable excipients.

5. (Currently amended)

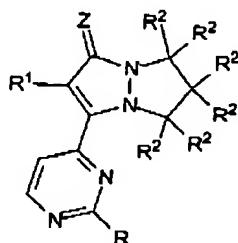
A method for controlling the osteoarthritis,

rheumatoid arthritis and diabetes in humans, said method comprising the step of administering to said humans a pharmaceutical composition comprising:

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- a) an effective amount of one or more bicyclic pyrazolones including all enantiomeric and diastereomeric forms and pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof, said compound having the formula:



wherein R is:

- a) $-\text{O}[\text{CH}_2]_k\text{R}^3$; or
- b) $-\text{NR}^{4a}\text{R}^{4b}$;

R^3 is substituted or unsubstituted $\text{C}_1\text{-C}_4$ alkyl, substituted or unsubstituted heterocyclic, substituted or unsubstituted hydrocarbyl, substituted or unsubstituted heterocyclyl, substituted or unsubstituted aryl or alkylenearyl, substituted or unsubstituted heteroaryl or alkyleneheteroaryl; the index k is from 0 to 5;

R^{4a} and R^{4b} are each independently:

- a) hydrogen; or
- b) $-[\text{C}(\text{R}^{5a}\text{R}^{5b})_m\text{R}^6]$;

each R^{5a} and R^{5b} are independently hydrogen, or $\text{C}_1\text{-C}_4$ linear, branched, or cyclic alkyl, and mixtures thereof; R^6 is hydrogen, $-\text{OR}^7$, $-\text{N}(\text{R}^7)_2$, $-\text{CO}_2\text{R}^7$, $-\text{CON}(\text{R}^7)_2$; substituted or unsubstituted $\text{C}_1\text{-C}_4$ alkyl, substituted or unsubstituted aryl, or substituted or unsubstituted heteroaryl; R^7 is hydrogen, a water-soluble cation, $\text{C}_1\text{-C}_4$ alkyl, or substituted or unsubstituted aryl; the index m is from 0 to 5;

R^1 is:

- a) substituted or unsubstituted aryl; or
- b) substituted or unsubstituted heteroaryl;

each R^2 unit is independently selected from the group consisting of:

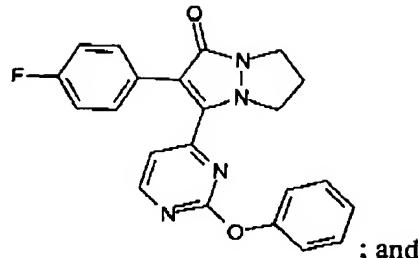
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- a) hydrogen;
 - b) $-(CH_2)_jO(CH_2)_nR^8$;
 - c) $-(CH_2)_jNR^{9a}R^{9b}$;
 - d) $-(CH_2)_jCO_2R^{10}$;
 - e) $-(CH_2)_jOCO_2R^{10}$;
 - f) $-(CH_2)_jCON(R^{10})_2$;
 - g) $-(CH_2)_jOCON(R^{10})_2$;
 - h) two R^2 units can be taken together to form a carbonyl unit;
 - i) and mixtures thereof;
- R^8 , R^{9a} , R^{9b} , and R^{10} are each independently hydrogen, C₁-C₄ alkyl, and mixtures thereof; R^{9a} and R^{9b} can be taken together to form a carbocyclic or heterocyclic ring comprising from 3 to 7 atoms; two R^{10} units can be taken together to form a carbocyclic or heterocyclic ring comprising from 3 to 7 atoms; j is an index from 0 to 5, n is an index from 0 to 5; Z is O, S, NR¹¹, or NOR¹¹; R¹¹ is hydrogen or C₁-C₄ alkyl; and
- b) one or more pharmaceutically acceptable excipients.

6. (Currently amended) A method for controlling the osteoarthritis, rheumatoid arthritis and diabetes in humans, said method comprising the step of administering to said humans a pharmaceutical composition comprising:

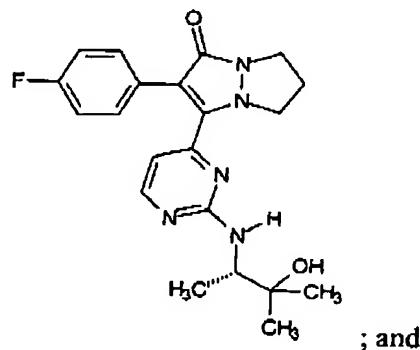
- a) an effective amount of the compound 2-(4-fluorophenyl)-3-(2-phenoxy-pyrimidin-4-yl)-6,7-dihydro-5H-pyrazolo-[1,2-a]pyrazol-1-one, including all enantiomeric and diasteriomic forms and pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof, said compound having the formula:

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b) one or more pharmaceutically acceptable excipients.

7. (Currently amended) A method for controlling the ~~osteoarthritis, rheumatoid arthritis and diabetes~~ in humans, said method comprising the step of administering to said humans a pharmaceutical composition comprising:
- a) an effective amount of the compound 2-(4-fluorophenyl)-3-[2-(2-hydroxy-1,2-dimethylpropylamino)pyrimidin-4-yl]-6,7-dihydro-5H-pyrazolo[1,2-a]pyrazol-1-one, including all enantiomeric and diastereomeric forms and pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof, said compound having the formula:



b) one or more pharmaceutically acceptable excipients.

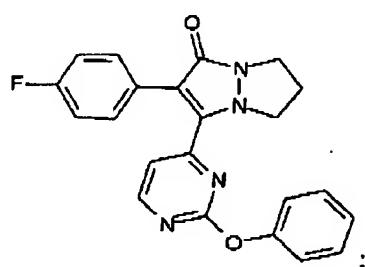
8. (Currently amended) A method for controlling the level of one or more inflammation inducing cytokines selected from the group consisting of, interleukin-1 (IL-1), Tumor Necrosis Factor- α (TNF- α), interleukin-6 (IL-6), and

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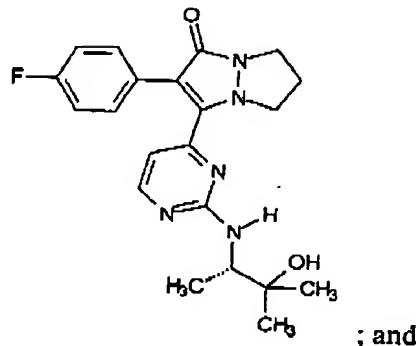
interleukin-8 (IL-8), thereby controlling, mediating, or abating disease states affected by the level of extracellular inflammatory cytokines in humans, said method comprising the step of administering to said humans a pharmaceutical composition comprising:

- a) an effective amount of one or more bicyclic pyrazolones including all enantiomeric and diastereomeric forms and pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof, said compound selected from bicyclic pyrazolones having the formula:

i)



ii)



iii) mixtures thereof; and

- b) one or more pharmaceutically acceptable excipients.